HCR 311/HR 226 – REQUESTING THAT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I INSTITUTE FOR ASTRONOMY PROVIDE A WRITTEN REPORT OF VIEWING TIME IN LIEU OF LEASE RENT AND FOR THE USE OF PUBLIC TRUST LANDS ON THE SUMMIT OF MAUNA KEA

Chairs Chang and Ito, Vice Chairs Nakashima and Har and members of the Committees:

The University of Hawai‘i is pleased to respond to the spirit of resolutions HCR 311/HR 226, which seek to clarify the financial implications of the agreements between the Telescopes located at the summit of Mauna Kea and the University of Hawai‘i. There are three “specifics” of the resolutions that we would ask you to reconsider.

First, the resolutions request information and data that goes back to 1968, 32 years ago. We simply do not have such data, nor is such old data particularly germane to the central questions to be answered. We will supply any/all data that addresses the financial implications for the past year and address any/all questions that pertain only to the earlier time period.

Secondly, the resolutions require a University response in 14 days following enactment of the joint resolution. We respectfully request an amended response period to allow us adequate time for a meaningful response.

Thirdly, the University does not agree with all the factual statements presented in the “whereas” statements of the individual Senate and House resolutions. We would be pleased to respond to each of these statements to better seek a common understanding of the central issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.